



MICHAEL BRANHAM
DIRECTOR

NEWS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
NANCY MOLEVER
602-542-3236 wk
602-525-4827cell

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LATEST CRIPA REPORT SHOWS CONTINUED PROGRESS
HIGH RATINGS RESULTS IN DISMISSAL OF TWELVE REPORTING AREAS

PHOENIX – A report monitoring six months' progress at the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) has found that the agency continues to make tremendous advancement in improving services it provides to youth offenders.

This is the fourth of six total semi-annual evaluation reports from consultants hired to assess the Department's compliance with the Memorandum of Agreement between the U.S. Department of Justice and the State of Arizona. The agreement was signed in September 2004 in response to a Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA) investigation that began in June 2002.

Of particular significance is that the Department has achieved substantial compliance in 119 out of 129 reporting areas; twelve reporting areas are terminated from the agreement and are no longer subject to monitoring. The substantial compliance rating is the highest rating given by federal consultants.

The latest report articulates improvements in key areas at all three juvenile correctional facilities covered under the Agreement. Highlights include: improvement in the areas of Education, Youth Grievances, Medical Services, Suicide Prevention, Quality Assurance, and Inspections & Investigations.

With one year left of the original four-year agreement, ADJC will meet with Department of Justice on October 17, 2006 to map out its strategies to improve the remaining ten areas from partial to substantial compliance.

The entire report can be viewed on the ADJC public website @ www.azdjc.gov

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